

OPT 32U

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Smalser, et al Examiner : Gonzalez, J. *P7*
Serial No. : 09/429,419 A.U. : 2834
Filed : 10/28/99
For : PROTECTION ARRANGEMENT . . GENERATION SYSTEMS

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

FAX RECEIVED

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

FEB - 6 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection mailed 11/20/02, kindly amend the
claims as follows:

Cancel claims 21 - 28 and 31.

Cancel claims 29 and 30 and rewrite them in independent form as
follows:

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the
Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703)305-1341) on December 31, 2002.

Michael Y. Epstein

(Type or print name of person mailing paper)

Date: 12/31/02Michael Y. Epstein

(Signature of person mailing paper)

2/6/03 Re-faxed to 703-308-7722

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-- 32. A method of operating a system for generating electrical power from a source of variable input energy comprising the steps of:

a. collecting said input energy for causing movements of an energy transferring link for driving an electrical generator for generating and transferring electrical energy to an electrical load;

b. measuring the amount of movement of said link and any rate of change of said amount of movement and, when said measured amount of movement exceeds a predetermined amount of movement of said link above which damage to the system is likely to occur, decreasing the electrical impedance of said load by a variable amount dependent upon said measured rate of change of said amount of movement for decreasing said movement to less than said predetermined value for protecting the system against damage while continuing to generate electrical power.

-- 33. A method of operating a system for generating electrical power from a source of variable input energy comprising the steps of:

a. collecting said input energy for causing movements of an energy transferring link for driving an electrical generator for generating and transferring electrical energy to an electrical load;

b. measuring the amount of movement of said link and, when said measured amount of movement exceeds a predetermined amount of movement of said link above which damage to the system is likely to occur, decreasing the electrical impedance of said load by a variable amount dependent upon said measured amount of movement for decreasing said movement to less than said predetermined value for protecting the system against damage while continuing to generate electrical power; wherein:

said source of mechanical energy is surface waves occurring at a first frequency on a body of water;

the method further comprising monitoring the amount of movement of said drive link at a sampling rate in excess of said first frequency, and varying the input impedance of said electrical load at a rate up to said first frequency in response to varying amplitudes of individual surface waves. - -